



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/811,766 Confirmation No. 9295

Applicant : Appu Rao *et al.*

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Customer No. : 35161

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to substantive review of the above-identified patent application and the concurrently-submitted RCE, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.